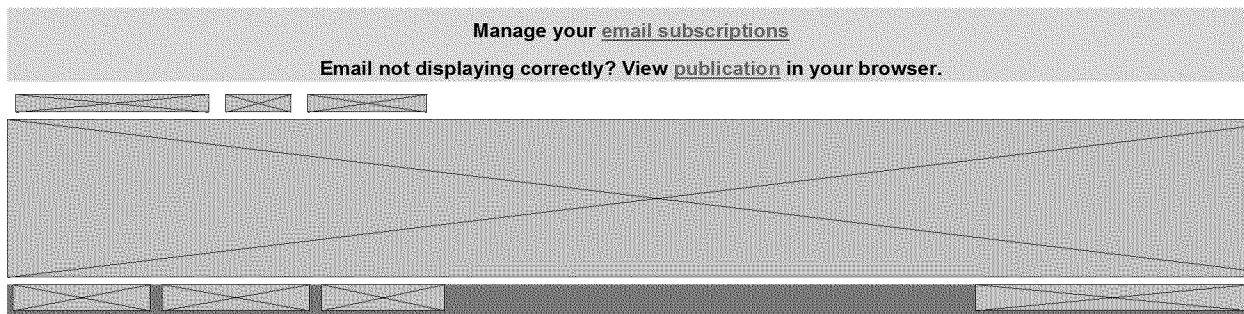


To: Doster, Brian[Doster.Brian@epa.gov]
From: BNA Highlights
Sent: Thur 2/6/2014 3:36:27 AM
Subject: Feb. 6 -- BNA, Inc. Daily Environment Report



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NEWS

Air Pollution

Deadline for Issuing Air Toxics Standards For Brick and Ceramics Kilns Extended

Just days before the Environmental Protection Agency's deadline to propose air toxics standards for brick and ceramics kilns, the agency and the Sierra Club agreed to a six-month extension in the deadline for issuing the rule (Sierra...

Chesapeake Bay

Attorneys General of 21 States Urge Third Circuit to Invalidate Bay TMDL

The attorneys general of 21 states filed a joint amicus brief urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit to invalidate the Environmental Protection Agency's mandatory restoration program for the Chesapeake Bay (Am. Farm Bureau...

Climate Change

European Parliament Seeks Binding Targets

On 2030 Emissions, Renewables, Efficiency

The European Parliament voted Feb. 5 in favor of the European Union's adopting binding greenhouse gas reduction, renewable energy and energy efficiency targets for 2030, a position that puts it at odds with the European Commission and...

Climate Change

Inhofe Bill Would Allow States to Opt

Out of EPA Power Plant Regulations

States could opt out of Environmental Protection Agency regulations to set limits on the carbon dioxide emitted by power plants under a bill introduced Feb. 4 by Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.)....

Climate Change

Northeast Democrats Tout RGGI, Urge EPA

To Provide Flexibility in Power Plant Rules

House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) and 40 other House Democrats are touting a regional effort to cap greenhouse gas emissions from power plants as a model for limiting carbon dioxide emissions from existing plants nationwide....

Climate Change

Obama, Vilsack Establish 'Climate Hubs'

To Increase Resiliency of Farms, Forests

President Barack Obama is taking executive action to help farmers, ranchers and rural communities combat climate change and adapt to the extreme weather and the damage it causes, a White House official said....

Drilling

Ceres Reports on Shale Gas Producers

With Highest Water Sourcing Risk

Anadarko Petroleum Corp., Encana Corp., Pioneer Natural Resources Co. and Apache Corp. have the highest exposure to water sourcing risk among shale energy producers in the United States and western Canada, according to a new report from the...

Drilling

University of Toronto Report Says Better

Monitoring of Oil Sands Emissions Needed

A study from the University of Toronto released Feb. 3 said officially reported emissions of certain air pollutants in Alberta's oil sands have been greatly underestimated....

Drinking Water

Researcher Offers Small Systems Tips

On Writing Contracts for Partnerships

Small drinking water systems that want to control costs by forming successful partnerships should consider a variety of issues as they develop contracts for these partnerships, a University of North Carolina researcher said during a webinar...

Drinking Water

Water Safe to Drink, Governor Tells

West Virginians Affected by Spill

West Virginia residents affected by the recent Elk River chemical spill should trust federal regulators' assurances that their drinking water is safe, according to Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin (D)....

Energy

EPA Defends Decision Not to Reduce

Renewable Fuel Volumes in 2013 Rule

The Environmental Protection Agency defended its decision not to reduce the overall renewable fuel blending requirements for 2013 as a justifiable use of the agency's discretion under the Clean Air Act (Monroe Energy LLC v. EPA, D.C....

Energy

EU Approves Joint Control of 9 Wind Energy Plants

Axpo CKW France SAS and EDP Renewables France may proceed with plans to jointly control nine wind energy plants in France after obtaining approval from the European Commission on Feb. 5. Axpo France, controlled by AXPO Holding AG of Switzerland,...

Energy

Interior Advances What Could Be West Coast's First Offshore Wind Project

The Interior Department announced Feb. 5 it has given a "green light" to a Seattle-based company to move forward with plans to build what could be the nation's first offshore wind project off the West Coast. ...

Energy

Keystone Dropped From Debt Ceiling Talks; Sierra Club Sues Corps; Salazar Says Build

House Republicans have decided not to seek approval of the Keystone XL oil pipeline as a condition for raising the debt ceiling in late February or early March, aides to lawmakers said following a Feb. 5 party caucus....

Energy

Republicans Urge BLM to Ease Regulation Of Oil, Gas, Move on Production Proposals

The Bureau of Land Management is costing the U.S. billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of jobs that could come out of oil and gas production on federal lands, House Republicans and energy advocates said Feb. 5....

Energy

Two Canadian Cabinet Ministers Ask Agencies to Review Propane Market

Canadian Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver and Industry Minister James Moore Feb. 4 asked the Competition Bureau and the National Energy Board to collaborate in reviewing prices and product scarcity in the propane market....

Enforcement

EPA Waives \$3 Million Fine Against Charter Communications Because of Self-Disclosures

The Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to waive more than \$3 million in fines against Charter Communications Inc. for violating environmental laws because the company disclosed the violations itself. ...

Enforcement

PHMSA Proposes Fines for Three Companies Over Improper Classification of Bakken Crude

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is proposing to fine three companies over the improper classification of crude oil transported from the Bakken Shale region by rail....

International Issues

U.S., Panama Boost Environmental Dialogue

The U.S. and Panama plan to set up a U.S.-Panama Secretariat for Environmental Matters to

receive public submissions charging that either the U.S. or Panama isn't effectively enforcing its environmental laws, according to a joint communique...

Mining

Court Should Rule Undisclosed Discharges Limit Permit Shield, Environment Groups Say

A federal district court correctly determined A&G Coal Corp.'s selenium discharges aren't protected under the Clean Water Act permit shield, environmental groups said in a brief filed in a federal appeals court (S. Appalachian...

Natural Resources

Yukon Groups Say Government Ignored Land-Use Plan in Decision on Development

A coalition of Canadian aboriginal and conservation groups is suing the Yukon territorial government over its decision to open a vast region of the Canadian north to mining and industrial development in a land-use plan released Jan. 21 (First...

Pesticides

EPA, Wildlife Service Release Draft Agreement on Migratory Bird Protection

The Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Pesticide Programs released a draft document outlining an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to promote the conservation of migratory bird populations....

Pesticides

EPA to Implement Certification Plan for Restricted Use Applicators on Tribal Lands

The Environmental Protection Agency will release a final plan for certifying pesticide applicators to use restricted-use pesticides on tribal lands, according to a notice scheduled for publication Feb. 6....

Regulatory Policy

EPA Considering Methods to Assess Economywide Costs of Air Regulations

The Environmental Protection Agency is soliciting public input on how to assess the economywide costs and benefits of air pollution regulations (79 Fed. Reg. 6899)....

Regulatory Policy

Republicans Accuse EPA of Regulatory Overreach in Air, Water, Climate Rules

Witnesses and Republican members of the House slammed Environmental Protection Agency regulations to address air pollution, water pollution and climate change as regulatory overreach and said the regulations weren't based on sound...

Superfund

W.R. Grace Pays \$63 Million to Clean Up Superfund Sites Across 21 States

W.R. Grace & Co., a global supplier of specialty chemicals, has paid more than \$63 million to the U.S. government to resolve claims for environmental cleanups across 21 states, the Justice Department and the Environmental Protection...

Toxic Substances

Electronics Industry Group Asks Congress To Exempt Byproducts From Amended TSCA

The Association Connecting Electronics Industries recently asked a House subcommittee to exempt their recycled byproducts from certain Toxic Substances Control Acts reporting requirements....

Toxic Substances

[FDA Bisphenol A Study Finds No Toxicity](#)

[Following Rats' Exposure to Seven Low Doses](#)

A study the Food and Drug Administration conducted to examine whether low doses of bisphenol A caused harm—as many academic studies have shown—found seven low doses did not do so. ...

Toxic Substances

[Legislators Seek Copy of Joint TSCA Reform](#)

[Memo From Manufacturers, Health Advocates](#)

Two leading Democrats on the House Energy and Commerce Committee have asked the American Chemistry Council and Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families to share a 2011 memorandum in which the two organizations described points of agreement they...

Water Pollution

[Duke Energy Battles to Halt Leak](#)

[From Coal-Ash Pond Into Dan River](#)

Duke Energy Corp. is still battling to halt a leak from a coal-ash pond into the Dan River in North Carolina, in the latest incident to draw attention to how power plant waste is regulated....

Water Resources

[EPA Launches Hotel Conservation Challenge](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency launched a campaign Feb. 5 to help hotels save water and money and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The WaterSense H2otel Challenge asks hotels to take a pledge to assess water use and opportunities for...

Water Resources

[Federal Agencies Pledge \\$34 Million to Fund](#)

[California Conservation, Management Plans](#)

The federal Bureau of Reclamation and the Natural Resources Conservation Service announced Feb. 5 the availability of up to \$14 million for California water districts and farmers to use to improve water management and conservation....

Water Resources

[Hearing Considers Water Storage Bills](#)

[To Address Red Tape, Financing Concerns](#)

Bills to cut red tape and allow more flexibility on funding for water reservoir construction received a hearing Feb. 5 by the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power....

Water Resources

[House Approves California Drought](#)

[Relief Bill, but Senate Backing Unlikely](#)

The House approved legislation Feb. 5 that would enable greater quantities of water to flow into the parched San Joaquin Valley in California while rolling back environmental laws and protections.

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Daily Environment Report

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